

James L. (Landon) Reynolds
KF4CAU
131 Woodycrest Road
Dickson, TN 37055

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Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C.

RE: Comments Regarding WT Docket 05-235

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to express my support of the FCC's proposal to eliminate the Morse code (CW) requirement for all Amateur Radio License classes.

Just as I have wrestled with trying to learn CW, I have wrestled with my position on this matter.

I certainly understand the positions of all involved parties, including those who have mastered the code to 'earn' their HF privileges.

I also understand the concern of many that by removing the code requirement, the HF bands will suffer the same fate as the 11-meter band. That is, the fear that utter chaos will take over.

However we must balance our opinions, concerns, and our fears with reality. Likewise, the FCC must address these concerns with a common sense approach. The FCC must learn from past mistakes (the 11-meter fiasco) and use those learning experiences to prevent future problems.

When the 'No-Code Technician' license class was instituted, the same arguments were raised. It was feared that the Amateur Radio bands above 30 MHz. would suffer the same fate as the 11-meter band. The fact is; this has not happened.

Since the 'No-Code Technician' program was instituted, the Amateur Radio Service has grown by thousands of new Amateur Radio Operators. A great number of these new 'No-Code Technicians' are the now backbone of many emergency communications programs such as ARES, RACES, SKYWARN and others. Thousands who may not have had much interest in Homeland Security before now have an interest by their affiliation as a Licensed Amateur Radio Operator.

An additional benefit that has come from the inception of the 'No-Code Technician' program is that an abundance of new technology has been created. New equipment with unlimited features has appeared on the market due to the demand. Not only that: the costs of equipment have fallen dramatically over the years because of increased competition.

I submit that the FCC's decision to eliminate the code requirement is a matter of National Security. It has long been recognized that Amateur Radio Operators are an essential component to our nation's infrastructure.

This decision will not only open up opportunities to upgrade the capabilities of existing Technician Class licensees, but will also serve as an incentive in the recruitment of new hams.

I have never been a big fan of heavy regulation by the government. However, in order to address the concerns of many hams that this decision will lead to chaos on the Amateur Radio bands, regulation and enforcement must play a role.

If the Amateur Radio Service is to continue to be successful, the FCC must continue to enforce the Rules and Regulations. Likewise, Amateur Radio Operators must continue to 'police' themselves.

Personally, I would not mind paying a fee for my Amateur Radio License if it would help to ensure that the FCC had the resources for enforcement.

Likewise, I am sure that many users of the Citizen's Radio Service would not mind paying a fee for licensure if the FCC enforced the regulations in that service as well. It is past time that the FCC restructure the Citizen's Radio Service as well as the Amateur Radio Service.

In conclusion, as a matter of National Security, I endorse the FCC's decision to eliminate the code requirement for all Amateur Radio license classes.

Respectfully Submitted,

James L. (Landon) Reynolds
KF4CAU
jlandonr@bellsouth.net